

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously added) A method for making a stent having a geometric shape comprising:

providing a metal sheet;

rolling said sheet within a pressurized roller to create a textured surface; and
cutting a geometric shape into said textured surface.

Claim 5 (Previously added) The method of claim 4 wherein same stent comprises:

a generally cylindrical device having a plurality of struts arranged in a circumferential fashion around said cylinder, said cylinder having a generally longitudinal axis, a radial dimension extending from said longitudinal axis, and a circumferential dimension extending around said axis, and said struts interconnected with one another;

said struts having a length, and said stent capable of being expanded from a first diameter to a second expanded diameter;

said struts having a cross-section comprising a width in said circumferential dimension and a thickness in said radial dimension;

and said strut thicknesses variable along their lengths.

Claim 6 (Currently amended) The stent method of claim 4 wherein said stent is used in combination with a balloon catheter.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The stent method of claim 4 wherein said stent is self-expanding.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) A stent method as in claim 4 wherein (said variable strut thickness) is varied along the length of the strut so that said strut is thicker at its ends than in its middle.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The stent method of claim 4 wherein (said struts) are configured so that there are portions of relative thickness and relative thinness along the length of the stent, and said portions of relative thickness are interspersed interspersed between said portions of relative thinness.

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Claim 10 (Currently amended) The ~~stent~~ method of claim 4 wherein the stent has a portion of relative thickness at one of said ends, and a portion of relative thinness at a second of said ends.
